A note to friends and supporters

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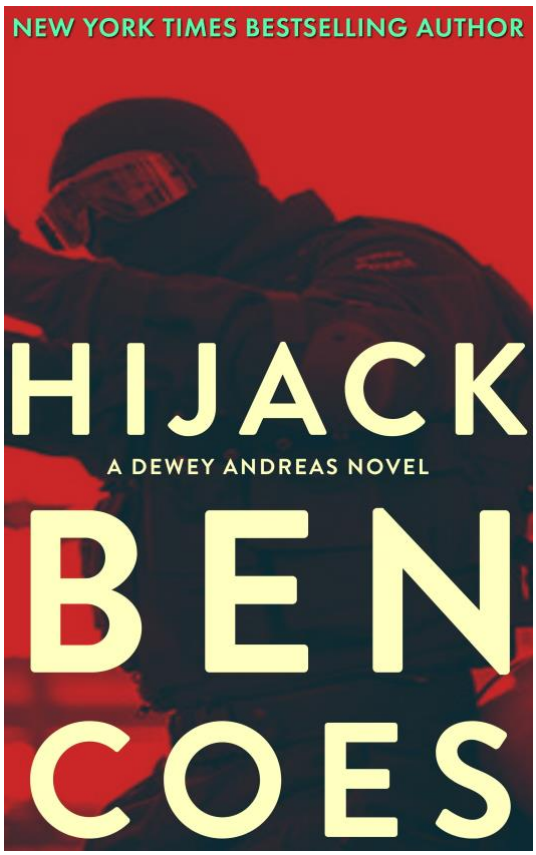

I wanted to share a quick note about Hijack.

Many of you know that while skiing with two of my children, I became critically ill. I developed bacterial meningitis and sepsis, suffered a stroke, and spent four months in the hospital. There were times my family wasn't sure I would survive. It took many more months before I could walk normally again.

When I began writing Hijack, I was determined to return to the career I love. Looking back, I started before I was fully ready. Although I poured everything I had into the book, I don't believe it met the standard that I expect of myself—or that you expect from me.

For that reason, I've removed Hijack while I continue to revise and strengthen it. I don't yet know when, or even if, I'll republish it. If I do, it will only be because I believe it's worthy of your time.

To everyone who read the book, sent encouraging notes, offered thoughtful criticism, or simply continued to support me through an incredibly difficult period in my life: thank you. Your kindness has meant more than I can express.

I wish you and your families a wonderful Fourth of July.

With gratitude,

Ben Coes

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